

REMARKS

Claims 3-13 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2 and 4 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. New claims 10-13 have been added to further define the invention. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Re-Joinder

Applicant respectfully requests re-joinder of claims 3 and 4, which depend from claim 8, for which the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences has reversed the Examiner's rejection.

Clarifying Amendment

In its Decision on Appeal, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences indicated that the claim 9 language "at least one element chosen from the group constituted by ..." possibly is indefinite. See foot note 2 on page 2 of the Decision on Appeal. Accordingly, to address the Board's concerns, Applicant has amended claim 9 so as to recite only one of the elements of the group, and has added new claims 10-13 so as separately to include the remaining elements from claim 9. Because all of the claims 9-13 depend from claim 8, Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance thereof.

Conclusion

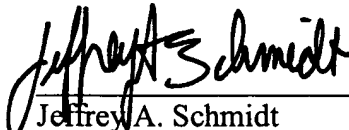
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
US Appln. 09/720,082

Atty. Docket: Q62381

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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